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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Army Headquarters and Troops in the Fuerstenberg Area

EVALUATION

DATE OF COM

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DATE OBTAIN

DATE PREPARED 10 January 1951

REFERENCE

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 10 November 1950, it was learned [redacted] that an army headquarters was located in Fuerstenberg (N 54/U 52). The forward echelon of the headquarters was located in the restricted area on Roeblyn Lake and the rear echelon in the fiber factory. (1)

2. The officers of the command element of the army headquarters included General Babadshenya, (fnu), commander-in-chief; Lieutenant General Sokolov, (fnu), chief of staff and deputy army commander; Colonel Pisarev, (fnu), MVD chief; Colonel Gerainien, (fnu), radio officer; Major Ivarov, (fnu), adjutant to Lieutenant General Sokolov; Captain Kusnetsov, (fnu), adjutant to the army commander; and Captain Gromov, (fnu), whose appointment could not be determined. (2)

3. The units quartered in Camp Ravensbrueck included the guard company of the restricted area at Roeblyn Lake. The company was relieved every three months, coming from various military posts, such as Rechlin (N 54/U 33), Neuruppin (N 53/U 49), Neustrelitz (N 54/U 54), and Droezen. The guard company on duty from August to October came from Rechlin. (3)

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4. Between 15 and 21 November, [redacted] the restricted area on the southern shore of Roeblyn Lake contained 50 to 60 villas in addition to several other buildings and newly constructed wooden barracks. Office hours start at about 9 a.m. Numerous field-grade officers of various branches of service, including tank, artillery, infantry, signal, motor transport, and medical officers, were seen at that time. Also observed were female officers holding ranks up to and including that of captain, ECOs and EM wearing signal and motor transport insignia and, occasionally, AF officers and enlisted personnel were seen. Heavy traffic of sedans, mostly German Merchs, Opel-Admirals, etc. and some Soviet cars, was observed at the restricted area. A rubber-insulated cable ran from the restricted area in the center of Fuerstenberg, which comprised the houses on Baalenseestrass and Schwedtseestrass. Field wires were strung from the high-echelon headquarters on Roeblyn Lake to billets and installations outside the restricted area. Sedans [redacted] occupied by officers, and [redacted] other motor vehicles were identified at the restricted area on 16 November:

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 Class. Changed To: TS S C  
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Passenger cars  
and trucks

\_\_\_\_\_ were identified at the restricted area  
on 21 November.

5. The restricted area in the center of Fuerstenberg included 30 to 40 villas on Wallstrasse, Schwedtseestrasse, and Baalenseestrasse. The signal-communications center of the headquarters on Roebelin Lake was believed to be located in this restricted area. Motor vehicle traffic was moderate. Officers of all branches of service, with signal officers predominating, were seen there. Most of the enlisted personnel wore signal insignia. Traffic of military personnel, on foot and in motor vehicles, was observed between the restricted area and the headquarters on Roebelin Lake. Numerous telephone wires converging at the restricted area included one rubber-insulated cable from the headquarters on Roebelin Lake; one rubber-insulated cable from the restricted area of the Fuerstenberg Mills west of the railroad station; several field wires from military installations in the southern sector of the town; and some field wires from the hospital in the former castle, from the Soviet Kommandatura, and from the printing shop of the newspaper Fuerstenberger Anzeiger on Am Markt. Passenger cars \_\_\_\_\_ were identified in the restricted area on 18 November and passenger cars \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ on 21 November. (h)

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6. Not less than 600 Soviet officers and 41 were quartered in the extensive restricted area of the former Ravensbrueck concentration camp. Traffic was observed between the camp and the headquarters on Roebelin Lake. Trucks \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ were identified on 18 November at a motor vehicle repair shop which was located opposite the junction of the longitudinal camp street and the Fuerstenberg-Lychen highway. From 200 to 300 troops, some of whom wore signal insignia, and a few tank and artillery insignia, were quartered in a separately fenced billiard area in the northern section of Camp Ravensbrueck. Several large garages, located beside the troop quarters, were occupied to capacity by motor vehicles. Trucks \_\_\_\_\_ were identified there on 18 November and jeep \_\_\_\_\_ on 21 November. A march column of about 80 soldiers wearing signal, tank, and artillery insignia was observed at the former SS buildings in about the center of Camp Ravensbrueck on 21 November. Passenger car \_\_\_\_\_ was parked in that section. About 200 troops were quartered in the southeastern section of the camp, which is the former concentration camp proper. Trucks \_\_\_\_\_ were identified there on 18 November and trucks \_\_\_\_\_ on 21 November. Motor vehicles observed at the western entrance to Camp Ravensbrueck on 18 November \_\_\_\_\_

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7. The barracks installation in Droegen was occupied by about 700 troops. Most of the officers observed there wore artillery insignia and only a few tank insignia. About 200 motor vehicles were seen in the billeting area, either in garages or outdoors. Sheds were under construction for the sheltering of motor vehicles. Motor vehicles identified there on 15 November included trucks [redacted] leaving toward Dannenwalde; trucks [redacted], leaving toward Fuerstenberg; trucks [redacted] and passenger cars [redacted] arriving from the direction of Fuerstenberg. Trucks [redacted] in convoy and each towing an AT gun of about 50 mm, was observed on the Droegen-Fuerstenberg road in the afternoon of 15 November. One of the AT guns [redacted] and another AT gun [redacted] of the 13xxx series. Trucks [redacted] entered the Droegen barracks installation on 21 November.

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Comments.

(1)

[redacted] the forward echelon of the army headquarters was believed to be located in the restricted area on the southeastern shore of Roebliu Lake, whereas a tank repair shop was carried in the former German fiber plant on Zehdenicker Strasse. [redacted]

(2)

General Babadshenya, (fnu), who was reported to be the commander-in-chief of the army, is believed to be one A.Kh. Babadzhanyan who, as major general, was replaced as the commanding general of the 11th Gds Tank Div and transferred to Moscow in May 1947. [redacted] Gds Lieutenant General A.T. Radziyevski has been carried as the commander-in-chief of the Second Gds Mec. Army in Fuerstenberg. With the exception of MVD Chief Pisarev, the other officers mentioned in the report are [redacted] not believed identical to officers of the same or similar names.

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The confirmation of Pisarev in his position of IVD chief may be considered an indication that the other names mentioned [redacted]

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[redacted] were also correct.

- (3) It is possible that guard companies were furnished at three-month intervals from the Broegen barracks installation quartering headquarters units of the Second Gds Mecz Army, from Neuruppin, where elements of the 12th Gds Tank Div are stationed, and from Neustrelitz, where elements of the 9th Gds Tank Div are located. It is doubted, however, that the guard company should have been relieved also from Rechlin, since only AF units are known to be stationed there.

(4) [redacted]

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[redacted] the signal-communications center and signal troops of the army headquarters were located there appears credible in view of the observations made there and because of the wire connection with the army headquarters.

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